GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:183
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2006
ILLEGAL BUSINESS OF COPYRIGHT
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the business of copyright is flourishing in entire country illegally; and

(b) if so, the administrative and remedial measures being taken to check it?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a): No, Sir. The Copyright Act, 1957 carries very effective provisions to prevent illegal activity in copyright material. The enforcement agencies have been known to act effectively against piracy of copyright materials.

(b): There are adequate provisions in the Copyright Act, 1957 providing for civil and criminal remedies against infringement of Copyright. Since Law and Order is a State Subject, the Central Government maintains close interaction with the State Governments to enforce the provisions of the law as well as to create awareness in the general public regarding the Law. Some of the measures in this regard are as given below:

(i) The Government of India has set up a Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council (CEAC) to periodically review the progress of enforcement of Copyright Act and to advise the Government regarding measures for improving the enforcement of the Act. The Council, chaired by the Secretary (Secondary and Higher Education) to the Government of India has representatives of copyright industries, of Police of some States, leading experts as members.

(ii) State Governments have been requested to set up Special Cells in their Police Headquaters to monitor cases of copyright violation. In addition, all States have nominated a senior Police Officer as the Nodal Officer for Copyright Enforcement activities in the State.

(iii) Government, in cooperation with Copyright organizations and educational institutions, organizes seminars and workshops in different part of the country regularly to educate the people about copyright matters. The Government of India also operates a Scheme of Intellectual Property Education, Research and Public Outreach (IPERPO), to organize seminars, workshops, training programmes in order to spread awareness regarding Copyright